

# Mental health effects of Hurricane Sandy: Characteristics, potential aftermath, and response

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#### Abstract:

On October 22, 2012, a late-season tropical system was named Sandy by the US National Hurricane Center. The system meandered for several days in warm Caribbean waters, intensifying slowly, gaining forward momentum, and passing directly over Jamaica, eastern Cuba, and the Bahamas. Sandy's outer rain bands deluged Haiti's deforested terrain, triggering severe floods and mudslides. Although Sandy was a minimal hurricane, millions were affected across 5 Caribbean nations and Puerto Rico, 100 persons were killed or reported missing, and thousands of homes were damaged. Estimated economic losses ranged from \$5 million in Jamaica to \$2 billion in Cuba.

Source: http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3638199

### **Resource Description**

#### Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional

Other Communication Audience: local and federal emergency administrators

Exposure:

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event

Extreme Weather Event: Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Ocean/Coastal, Urban

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Geographic Location: M resource focuses on specific location **United States** Health Impact: M specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure Mental Health/Stress Mental Health Effect/Stress: Mood Disorder, Stress Disorder Intervention: M strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health A focus of content Medical Community Engagement: M resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change A focus of content mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource Adaptation Population of Concern: A focus of content Population of Concern: M populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts Children, Elderly, Workers Other Vulnerable Population: rescue workers; disabled; women

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Resource Type: M

Resilience: M

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

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## Vulnerability/Impact Assessment: №

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system A focus of content